

CONFIDENTIAL.]

(No. 16 of 1913.

# REPORT

## ON

# NATIVE PAPERS IN BENGAL

FOR THE

## Week ending the 19th April 1913.

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Nil.



## PART I OF WEEKLY REPORT.

## LIST OF VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS.

(Corrected up to the 16th November 1912.)

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	<b>BENGAL.</b>				
1	"Bangaratna"	Krishnagar	Weekly	Kamal Lal Das, Hindu, Karmokar; age 38 years	1,500
2	"Bangavasi"	Calcutta	Do.	Bihari Lal Sarkar, Kayastha, age 55 years; Hari Mohan Mukherji, Brahmin, age 48 years; Satyendra Kumar Basu.	15,000
3	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura	Do.	Rama Nath Mukherji, V.L.M.S., Brahmin, age 51 years; Viswanath Mukherji, B.L., Brahmin, age 49 years.	453
4	"Barisal Hitaishi"	Barisal	Do.	Durga Mohan Sen, Baidya, age 35 years	600
5	"Banga Janan"	Rangpur (Bhotmari)	Do.	Sasi Mohan Adhikari, Baidya, age 37 years	.....
6	"Basumati"	Calcutta	Do.	Sureshchandra Samajpati; Hari Pada Adhikari, age 41 years; Mani Lal Banerji, age 36 years.	15,000 to 20,000
7	"Birbhum Hitaishi"	Bolepur (Birbhum)	Do.	Dibakar Banerji, Hindu, Brahmin; age 43 years	350
8	"Birbhum Varta"	Suri (Do.)	Do.	Debendra Nath Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 38 years	300
	"Birbhum Vasi"	Rampurhat (Do.)	Do.	Nil Ratan Mukherji, B.A., Brahmin, age 44 years	750
	"Biswadut"	Howrah	Do.	Nagendra Nath Pal Chaudhuri; Hindu, Kayastha; age 6 years.	1,500
	"Burdwan Sanjivani"	Burdwan	Do.	Probodhananda Sarkar, B.L., Kayastha, age 31 years	500
9	"Chabbis Pargana Vartavaha."	Bhowanipore	Do.	Hem Chandra Nag, Kayastha, age 29 years	500 to 700
13	"Charumihir"	Mymensingh	Do.	Baikuntha Nath Sen, B.L., Kayastha, age 48 years	1,100
14	"Chinsura Varata-vaha."	Chinsura	Do.	Dinanath Mukherji, Brahmin, age 46 years	300
15	"Dainik Chandrika"	Calcutta	Daily, except on Thursday.	Hari Das Dutt and Kshetra Nath Sen	4,000
16	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca	Weekly	Saty Bhushan Dutt Roy, Baidya, age 46 years	300
17	"Dacca Prakas"	Do.	Do.	Mukhunda Behari Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 48 years	300
18	"Dhruba Tara"	Mymensingh	Do.	.....	.....
19	"Education Gazette"	Chinsura	Do.	Pandit Nibaran Chandra Bhattacharjee, Brahmin, age 36 years.	1,500
20	"Faridpur Hitaishini"	Faridpur	Fortnightly	Raj Mohan Masumdar, Baidya, age about 73 years	.....
21	"Gaud Dut"	Malda	Weekly	Krishna Chandra Agarwalla	.....
22	"Hindu Ranjika"	Rajahahi	Do.	Kasimuddin Sarkar, Muhammadan Printer, age 41 years	150
23	"Hinduethan"	Calcutta	Do.	Hari Das Dutt	1,000
24	"Hitavadi"	Do.	Do.	Anukul Chandra Mukherji and Sakharan Ganesh Denshke	20,000 to 25,000
25	"Hitavarta"	Chittagong	Do.	.....	.....
26	"Islam Rabi"	Mymensingh	Do.	Maulvi Nasimuddin Ahmad, Musalman, age about 35 years	700
27	"Jagaran"	Bagerhat	Do.	.....	About 300
28	"Jasohar"	Jessore	Do.	Ananda Mohan Chaudhuri, Hindu, Kayastha	50
29	"Jyoti"	Chittagong	Do.	Kali Senkar Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 47 years	1,000 to 2,000
30	"Kalyan"	Magura	Do.	Bisweswar Mukherji, Brahmin, age 46 years	500



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	<b>BENGALI—contd.</b>				
31	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Barisal ...	Weekly ...	Pratap Chandra Mukherji; Brahmin; age 68 years ...	500
32	"Khulnavasi" ...	Khulna ...	Do. ...	Gopal Chandra Mukherji; Hindu, Brahmin, age 51 years	300
33	"Malda Samachar" ...	Malda ...	Do. ...	Kali Prassanna Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 42 years ...	440
34	"Manbhum" ...	Purulia ...	Do. ...	Bagala Charan Ghosh; Hindu, Kayastha; age 41 years ...	About 500
35	"Midnapore Hitaishi" ...	Midnapore ...	Do. ...	Manmatha Nath Nag, Kayastha, age 35 years ...	300
36	"Medini Bendhab" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Deb Das Karan; Hindu, Sadgop; age 44 years ...	400
37	"Moslem Hitaishi" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Shaik Abdur Rahim and Mozummul Haque ...	4,000 to 5,000
38	"Mubammadi" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Muhammad Akram Khan, Musalman, age 37 years, and Maulvi Akbar Khan.	2,000
39	"Murshidabad Hitaishi" ...	Saidabad ...	Do. ...	Banwari Lal Goswami Hindu, Brahmin; age 46 years ...	200
40	"Nayak" ...	Calcutta ...	Daily ...	Birendra Chandra Ghosh and Panchkari Banerjee ...	1,500 to 2,000
41	"Navavanga" ...	Chandpur ...	Weekly ...	Harendra Kisore Ray, Kayastha, age 25 years ...	400
42	"Noakhali Sammilani" ...	Noakhali ...	Do. ...	Sasi Bhushan Das, Kayastha ...	200
43	"Nihar" ...	Contai ...	Do. ...	Madhu Sudan Jana, Brahmo, age 43 years ...	300
44	"Pallivarta" ...	Bongong ...	Do. ...	Charu Chandra Ray Hindu, Kayastha; age 36 years ...	500
45	"Pallivasi" ...	Kalna ...	Do. ...	Sasi Bhushan Banerji, age 47 years ...	300
46	"Pabna Hitaishi" ...	Pabna ...	Do. ...	Basant Kumar Vidyavinode, Bhattacharyya, Brahmin, age 36 years.	300
47	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Tippera ...	Fortnightly ...	Munshi Muhammad Ali Mear, Musalman, age 53 years ...	200
48	"Prasun" ...	Katwa ...	Weekly ...	Purna Chandra Chatterji, Brahmin; age 47 years, and Banku Behary Ghose, Goala, age 41 years.	610
49	"Pratibha" ...	Berhampur ...	Do. ...	Kamakshya Prasad Ganguly, Brahmin, age 64 years ...	500
50	"Purulia Darpan" ...	Purulia ...	Do. ...	Amulya Ratan Chatterji, Brahmin, age 41 years ...	About 700
51	"Rajakuti" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Bagala Charan Ghosh, Kayastha, age 41 years ...	110
52	"Ratnakar" ...	Asansol ...	Do. ...	Satya Kinkar Banerji, Brahmin, age 26 years ...	500
53	"Rangpur Durpan" ...	Rangpur (Bhotmari) ...	Do. ...	Braja Nath Basak; Hindu, Tanti; age 52 years ...	200
54	"Rangpur Dikprakash" ...	Ditto ditto ...	Do. ...	Hara Sarkar Meitra, Brahmin, age 66 year ...	300
55	"Samay" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Jnanendra Nath Das, M.A., B.L., Brahmo, age 58 years ...	500 to 800
56	"Sanjaya" ...	Faridpur ...	Do. ...	Rama Nath Ghosh, Kayastha, age about 38 years ...	500
57	"Sanjivani" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	Lalit Mohan Das, late Professor, City College; Sihnath Sastri, M.A.; Ramananda Chatterji, M.A., Editor, "Modern Review," etc.; K. K. Mitter.	11,000
58	"Sanskodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	Do. ...	Kashi Chandra Das Gupta, Brahmo, age 60 years ...	400
59	"Sahrid" ...	Perojpur ...	Fortnightly ...	Ram Chandra Pal, Kayastha ...	200
60	"Subarnabanik" ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	.....	.....
61	"Sri Sri Vishnu Priya-Ananda Basar Patrika" ...	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Rasik Mohan Chakravarti, Brahmin, age 30 years, and Arinal Kanti Ghosh.	2,500
62	"Siksha Samachar" ...	Dacca ...	Do. ...	Abinas Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Baidya, age 36 years ...	.....
63	"Suraj" ...	Pabna ...	Do. ...	.....	.....
64	"The Calcutta Advertiser" ...	Calcutta ...	Do. ...	.....	.....
65	"Tripura Guide" ...	Comilla ...	Do. ...	.....	.....



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1	2	3	4	5	6
	BENGALI—consolid.				
66	"Tripura Hitaishi"	Tippera ... ..	Weekly ... ..	Kamantya Kumar Singha, Brahmo, age 23 years ... ..	700
67	"Vartabaha"	Ranaghat ... ..	Do. ... ..	Girija Nath Mukherji, Hindu, Brahmin, age 41 years ... ..	50 to 600
68	"Viswavarta"	Dacca ... ..	Do. ... ..	Abinash Chandra Gupta, M.A., B.L., Hindu, Baidya, age 36 years.	1,000



*Additions to, and alterations in, the list of Vernacular Newspapers as it stood on the 16th November 1912.*

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	" Bharat Chitra " ...	Calcutta ...	Weekly ...	...	...
2	" Hablul Matin " ...	Calcutta ...	Daily ...	...	...



## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## a)—Police.

In the course of a long article on "Dacoity as it was before and as it is now," the *Dainik Chandrika* [Calcutta] of the 15th April says:—

*DAINIK CHANDRIKA*,  
April 15th, 1912.

"Dacoity as it was before and as it is now."

Formerly, dacoits used to be well trained in the use of arms and were regular fighters. But the present day dacoit possesses no such qualification. It ought, therefore, to be easier to conquer him than it was to conquer his predecessors. Formerly, however, village chaukidars, and even respectable villagers, had the strength, courage and training to fight with dacoits and conquer them, whereas now the village is wanting in such capable men. This is the reason why dacoits, untrained and weak though they are in these days, get no opposition from villagers when they commit dacoity.

2. The *Moslem Hitaashi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April dwells on the increasing frequency of armed dacoities in Bengal, and on the panic this is causing among the richer section of the rural population, and suggests that, in order to enable the villagers to make an effective resistance, selected men among them in each village should be permitted to possess and use fire-arms.

*MOSLEM HITASHI*,  
April 11th, 1912.

3. The *Ananda Bosaratrika* [Calcutta] of the 10th April, in referring to the recent recrudescence of dacoities in Bengal, writes that it is not much good letting selected villagers possess fire-arms; they must be taught how to use them. A better way of doing things will be to form volunteer corps in each village of picked young men who will be taught how to defend the village against dacoits. Money spent in this way will be better utilized than in keeping up an inefficient police.

*ANANDA BASAR  
PATRIKA*,  
April 10th, 1912.

4. The *Suraj* [Pabna] of the 7th April refers to the growing frequency of armed dacoities in Bengal, and suggests the desirability of giving selected villagers in each locality the right to possess fire-arms, to enable them to make an effective resistance against the dacoits.

*SURAJ*,  
April 7th, 1912.

5. The *24-Parganas Vartavaha* [Bhowanipore] of the 8th April writes that the recent dacoity at Krishnakati in Bakarganj, where a number of Moslem dacoits masqueraded as respectable Hindus, ought to give a pause to those people who, whenever they hear that a dacoity has been committed by respectably-dressed Hindus, jump to the conclusion that it was really the work of men of the respectable castes. They forget the possibility of low class people disguising themselves as high-caste ones. Who can tell that this Krishnakati case is the only one where such disguise was assumed?

*24-PARGANAS  
VARTAVAHA*,  
April 8th, 1912.

6. In connection with the recrudescence of dacoities in Bengal, the *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April hopes that the recent dacoity at Krishnakati in Bakarganj will disabuse the police of the idea that most of these crimes are committed by *Bhadrologs*. In this case it was discovered that the offenders were Moslems dressed up for the occasion as respectable Hindus.

*HITAVADI*,  
April 11th, 1912.

7. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April hears that some selfish and mischievous-minded Maulvis are trying to create among their rustic co-religionists of Chatmohar and its neighbourhood in Pabna, a feeling of hatred against Hindus. These Maulvis have made Parsadanga, Bongong, Sojnani, etc., the principal theatre of their operations. Breaches of the public peace are imminent. The matter demands prompt action by the Magistrate.

*HITAVADI*,  
April 11th, 1912.

8. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 10th April writes how there has been lately a recrudescence of the anti-Hindu propaganda at Ullapara and its neighbourhood in Pabna, and

*SANJIVANI*,  
April 10th, 1912.



mentions various specific cases of Hindus subjected to ill-treatment by Moslems, which have been or are now being taken cognisance of by the police.

MOSLEM HITAISHI,  
April 11th, 1912.

9. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April complains that the Moslem tenants of Rani Minakumari of Jaiganj in Murshidabad, residing in certain villages in Nawabganj thana in Dinajpur district, are being oppressed by Babu Rajendra Lal Ganguly, Inspector of the cutcherry of the six annas Karaibari pergunna zemindari located at Maharajpur. These Moslem ryots, on the advice of a local Maulvi named Abdul Guffar of Halajana, declined to pay subscriptions of a rupee or more demanded by Rajendra Babu for *Barwari* festivities and dances by women of ill-repute. They hold that it is against their faith to pay for worshipping idols. In revenge, Rajendra Babu is hauling up these tenants to his cutcherry and insulting and fining them. He also demands that these tenants should cease contributing to the schools and Madrasah which the Maulvi abovenamed maintains with the aid of local subscriptions. He has made the catching of fish by Moslems penal. And he is generally terrorising the local people beyond measure. The Magistrate of Dinajpur should promptly inquire into the matter.

MUHAMMADI,  
April 11th, 1912.

10. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April complains that Babu Rajendranath Ganguli, has been committing great oppression on Musalmans, and even insulting their women. He is trying to murder every Musalman who is opposed to his ways. The other day his men tried to murder Maulvi Abdul Guffar by surrounding his carriage. It was only his lucky absence from the carriage that saved the Maulvi's life.

(c)—Jails.

BIRBHUMVARTA,  
April 12th, 1912.

11. The *Birbhumvarta* [Birbhum] of the 12th April is glad that the Government of Madras has ordered the use of differently coloured dresses and so forth, by prisoners belonging to different castes, in prisons within its jurisdiction. It is a happy thing that Government's notice has been drawn to the undesirability of jeopardising the castes of prisoners by compelling them all to eat together. The Government of Bengal should follow the example of the Government of Madras in this matter.

(d)—Education.

NAYAK,  
April 15th, 1912.

12. We, writes the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 15th April, are extremely glad at the news of Mr. Hornell's appointment to the Directorship of Public Instruction in Bengal. First of all, Mr. Hornell is a really able man, young and, therefore, industrious. Secondly, when Anglo-Indian newspapers like the *Englishman*, the *Statesman* and so forth have become extremely irritated at his appointment, there can be no doubt that we ought to support it. We know Mr. Hornell, and we believe that he will prove an able Director and be able to check the objectionable ways of many school-bookwriters.

Mr. Hornell's appointment, moreover, has given us the greatest satisfaction, because it brings out Lord Hardinge's spirit of independence in a singular degree. Had he appointed Mr. James, we would have thought that he had done so under compulsion. Now we know that neither White men nor Black men can compel him to do anything out of fear for them. Victory to Lord Hardinge! Victory to Lord Carmichael!

SANJAY,  
Mar. 14th, 1912.

13. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 14th March is sorry at the degradation of Maulvi Abdul Karim from a Divisional Inspectorship to an Additional Inspectorship of Schools, and wants to know the reason of his being so treated by the authorities. It is true, says the writer, that the Maulvi sometimes used to treat teachers very badly in the course of his inspections, but still we are really sorry at his degradation.



14. The *Samay* [Calcutta] of the 11th April wants to know why if the Dacca University is to have a Moslem College and a Faculty of Islamic Studies, it is not to have a Hindu College and a Faculty of Sanskrit studies. This terrible favouritism, if persisted in, will create an idea that Government wants to convert the University ultimately into an Islamic University.

SAMAY,  
April 11th, 1913.

15. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April writes that the rules framed by Babu S. P. Das, Principal of the Hooghly College, for the management of the Boarding House of the Hooghly Madrasah give a strange measure of despotic power to the Superintendent of the boarding-house. The visitors are reduced to a position of utter powerlessness. The Superintendent hails from Chittagong and in selecting the scholars entitled to live free of cost he has selected 4 men from Chittagong out of the 12 who in all hail from that place. And 12 other free seats are distributed among 108 other scholars. This is rank favouritism. And the Superintendent and his sons live in the Hostel as if it was their own property, and they behave most arbitrarily towards the students. The Director of Public Instruction should promptly interfere, if further revelations are to be avoided.

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,  
April 11th, 1913.

And the Principal objected to the Head Maulvi of the Madrasah being presented with an address by his students on the occasion of his transfer to Arrah. But he took the lead in the presentation of an address to Babu Haridas Banerji, Headmaster, on the eve of his retirement. This means that Moslems have no rights in a college founded with a Moslem's money.

16. The *Moslem Hitaishi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April in referring to Sir Archdale Earle's scheme of Madrasah improvement in his province, suggests that in each subdivision of Sylhet there should be one Junior Government Madrasah and at least 8 Primary *Mukhtabs*. Further, the semi-senior Madrasah at Fulbari should be raised to the status of a full senior Madrasah and aided by Government. And in all these institutions, the system of training to be imparted should conform to that proposed in his "Madrasah scheme."

MOSLEM HITAIISHI,  
April 11th, 1913.

17. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April thinks that Mr. Kuchler's reply in Council to Mr. Fazlul Huq's outburst about Moslem education having been retarded in the past by Government, is inconclusive. Instead of meeting the allegation by arguments Mr. Kuchler quoted Nawab Ali Chaudhuri to prove that it was the fault of Moslems themselves that they did not take advantage in the past of the educational facilities offered by Government. People will think that the victory in the argument rests with Mr. Huq, and that Government had no defence to offer and therefore fell back on quoting Nawab Ali Chaudhuri.

HITAVADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

18. Referring to the projected appointment of a special officer directly under the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, to have charge of the Madrasahs and *Mukhtabs* in the province, the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April says that unless this officer be an able Musalman his appointment will do no good to the Musalman community. It is not possible for a non-Musalman to properly superintend Madrasahs and *Mukhtabs*, supply their wants and remove their grievances.

MUHAMMADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

19. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April thanks the Government of Bengal for having desired to appoint a standing committee composed of official and non-official members to solve the difficult problems of Musalman education in the country, and urges that the non-official members of the committee should be all Musalmans selected from amongst the best men of the community and not merely from title-holders.

MUHAMMADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

20. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April regrets that the Government of Bengal has, in reply to an interpellation of the Hon'ble Maulvi Abdul Kasim, expressed its inability to allow special inspecting officers of Musalman education to prepare separate annual reports of their own work. It is a fact that in the amalgamated annual

MUHAMMADI,  
April 11th, 1913.



reports, which are prepared by Divisional Inspectors, of Schools, the views of the Musalman officers on the wants and grievances of the Musalman community generally find no place. The plea that the Government of India has fixed the maximum length of a Divisional Inspectors' report at 24 pages does not hold water, for the reports of Musalman officers as prayed for need not form parts of the reports of Divisional Inspectors.

(c)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

MUHAMMADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

21. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April protests against the proposal to set apart a public park in Calcutta for *pardanashin* ladies, on the ground that orthodox Hindus and Musalmans do not require it.

CHARU MIHIR,  
April 8th, 1913.

22. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 8th April writes:—

The Mymensingh District Board.

We published, last week, the names of the gentlemen recommended for nomination to the Mymensingh District Board. Those names have not been gazetted yet. In the meantime, we may remark that the District Board should not be placed wholly under the control of a particular community. Why did not the Magistrate recommend for nomination any representative of the middle-classes? In spite of eleven Moslems having been returned by election, the Magistrate has recommended for nomination Moslem members like Nawab Ali Chaudhury, Muhammad Abdul Alim and Muhammad Abdul Khalek (who is not a native of the district at all. It was not proper to have nominated the Superintendent of Police, the Subdivisional Officer of Tangail and the Settlement Officer. Why was not an educated man of the middle-class taken in? Zemindars and their managers may be ornamental members, but they cannot represent the wants and grievances of the people effectually. We are sorry to see this attempt made to keep educated Hindus out of the District Board. And of the zemindar members, were there no zemindars qualified other than those nominated? Why was not Raja Sashi Sekhar Acharyya Chaudhury recommended? He is a leading zemindar of the district, and he or his manager ought to have been nominated for the Board. When Sir Charles Elliott was Lieutenant-Governor, he sent back a list of nominations, because Maharaja Suryya Kumar's name was not in it. Times are now altered. We trust the list of recommendations this year may yet be changed. New nominations should be made each time and renominations, as a rule, avoided. And some representative of the educated middle-class should be taken in.

MUHAMMADI,  
April 11th, 1913

23. The *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April writes as follows:—

Local Self-Government Boards and Musalmans.

From the point of abstract principle, every member of a Local Self-Government Board should be an elected member. The Government of India has, however, retained the power of nominating a number of members for each such Board with the object of safeguarding the interests of weaker communities. It is, therefore, highly regrettable that, in using this power, Government does not generally consult the interests of the Musalman community.

BASUMATI,  
April 12th, 1913.

24. Self-Government in Bengal, writes the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 12th April, exists only in name. The Chairman of every District Board is, as a matter of course, an official. And the other day Government announced in the Bengal Legislative Council, in reply to a question by Maharaja Ranjit Sinha, that five District Boards in Bengal had Government Pleaders as their Vice-Chairmen. This, Government tried to defend by the argument that Government Pleaders are not, strictly speaking, Government servants. If Government Pleaders are not Government servants, why then was Rai Bahadur Jadunath Majumdar's candidature for election as a member of the Legislative Council disallowed on the ground of his being a Government Pleader? Moreover, a Government Pleader, be he a Government servant or not, can never be expected as the Vice-Chairman of a District Board, to oppose the District Magistrate, who is its Chairman, in matters concerning the Board, for if he values his service as a Government Pleader he



cannot afford to displease the Magistrate. We, therefore, request the Government to take steps to prevent the election of such men as Vice-Chairmen of District Boards as are directly or indirectly under official control.

25. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 2nd April urges the Government to grant the Kalna Municipality's prayer for funds and so forth, for destroying the growing jungles in the locality. Unless this prayer is granted, Kalna

Requirements of the Kalna Municipality.

will be turned into a wilderness. The writer also urges the necessity of sinking some wells in the town for supplying drinking water, and filling up unhealthy ponds.

26. The *Murshidabad Hitaishi* [Murshidabad] of the 9th April writes that the districts in Bengal which suffer most from water-scarcity are Mymensingh, Pabna, Nadia and

Water-scarcity in Murshidabad.

Murshidabad. In the last named, it is necessary that Government should forthwith take up the re-excavation of the existing silted up village tanks. It is a question of heavy outlay, but it is obligatory on Government to do the needful in this matter. At any event, let these four districts receive a larger share of the attention of Government in this matter than the rest.

27. The *Vartavaha* [Ranaghat] of the 12th April wants to know what has become of the project to excavate tanks in Nadia from the interest of the Edward Memorial

Water-scarcity in Nadia.

Fund. The present is the season of water-scarcity, and something should be done at once to afford relief.

28. The *Medini Bandhav* [Midnapur] of the 7th April complains that, in the matter of Government grants placed in the hands of District Boards to alleviate water scarcity, Midnapore has been unfairly treated this year as

Water-supply grant for Midnapore inadequate

compared with Burdwan, or Birbhum or Bankura. For Burdwan has got Rs. 3,000 for this purpose, Birbhum Rs. 2,023, Bankura Rs. 1,298 and Midnapore, in spite of its enormous area, has got only Rs. 1,679. Why this difference?

29. The *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 7th April publishes the following letters addressed to the Chairman of the

A quarrel over a ghat at Barisal.

Barisal Municipality by Mr. Strong, the Magistrate of Barisal, and Mr. Tweedie, a private gentleman at Barisal, on the subject of the construction of a ghat and seats on a *khal*, sanctioned by the Municipality. Mr. Tweedie has taken the Chairman to task for not having consulted him in the matter, and strangely enough the Magistrate supports Mr. Tweedie, in a language and tone which are not unobjectionable. The letters are published at the desire of Chaudhury Muhammad Ismail Khan, at whose expense the ghat is being constructed.

PALLIVASI,  
April 2nd, 1913.

MURSHIDABAD  
HITAISHI,  
April 9th, 1913.

VARTAVAHA,  
April 12th, 1913.

MEDINI BANDHAV  
April 7th, 1913.

BARISAL HITAISHI,  
April 7th, 1913.

## COPY OF MAGISTRATE'S LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN, MUNICIPALITY.

BARISAL.

D. O. No. 145 C.

The 17th March 1913.

DEAR SIR,

Mr. Tweedie has complained to me that, during his absence and without consulting him, a new *pucka* ghat has been erected by the side of the *khal* which runs past his house on the south. He points out that this ghat is unnecessary, as a masonry ghat already exists quite close to it, and the *khal* being little better than a ditch can hardly be regarded as a proper source of public water-supply. What, however, he principally objects to are the seats which are being constructed on the top of the *khal*. These seats will overlook his compound, and will seriously interfere with his privacy especially if, as is possible, they are resorted to by the riff-raff of the Bazar. I understand that the ghat is being erected at the expense of Chowdhury Muhammed Ismail Khan, who has obtained the permission of the municipality to erect it. I am convinced that this gentleman would bitterly resent any interference with the privacy of his own compound, such as he now proposes to inflict upon Mr. Tweedie, and I am astonished that he had not the courtesy to consult



Mr. Tweedie before taking steps to construct the ghat. I am in personal agreement with Mr. Tweedie's view that he has a legitimate grievance against the municipality in this matter, and that his objection to the erection of the ghat, and especially to the construction of seats on the top of it, is fully justified, and I would request you to see Mr. Tweedie and try and arrange the matter with him amicably. In this connection, the fact that Mr. Tweedie pays a considerable sum in taxes should not be forgotten.

Sincerely yours,  
Sd. F. W. STRONG.

To

BABU TARINI KUMAR GUPTA,  
Chairman, Barisal Municipality.

COPY OF MR. TWEEDIE'S LETTER TO THE CHAIRMAN OF  
THE MUNICIPALITY ABOUT THE BATHING GHAT  
CONSTRUCTION.

To the Chairman, Barisal Municipality.

SIR,

Not content with having one bathing ghat on the (and encroaching on) the public road in front of my house, you have arranged to build and are building another a few yards from the first. I should have imagined that one bathing place on the side of that filthy ditch would have been sufficient for most of the dirty rogues in this part of the town (for no self-respecting man would bathe in such a dirty spot). But as Maulvi Ismail Khan no doubt has done it for the benefit of his servants, and if he has a desire that his servants should bathe in such a place, I have nothing to say.

But I do object to seats being made on top of it. It is quite bad enough to have the road narrowed, without having seats for all sorts of dirty vagabonds to make use of. I also very strongly object to the seats being made facing my house and garden and destroying my privacy. But, of course, I am quite prepared to be told that I am nobody and that Ismail Khan is one of God's Elect, and expects to be told this at Barisal. I should have thought the Chairman of the Municipality would, however, have had the courtesy to put the matter before me, before agreeing to such a very back-stair arrangement. I write to protest against the seats, and I am also writing to protest to the Magistrate.

Yours faithfully,  
Sd. S. C. TWEEDIE.

BASUMATI,  
April 12th, 1913.

30. According to the *Jasohar* newspaper, writes the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 12th April, the transfer of Mr. Liddel, Magistrate, from Jessore has encouraged a few Musalmans to agitate against his order prohibiting steeping of jute in rivers. They have, in fact, petitioned the District Board to set aside this order. It is hoped that nothing of the kind will be done before thoroughly enquiring what effect the prohibition of steeping of jute in rivers has had on the health of the district.

(f)—Questions affecting the land.

BASUMATI,  
April 12th, 1913.

31. A correspondent of the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 12th April draws the attention of the Government to the leasing out of a big pasture field, locally known as Charhakkhola and another piece of pasture land, in village Susunda under Thana Muradnagar in the Tipperah district, by their zamindars. About ten years ago, a dispute arose between the owners of the latter piece of land and the local raiyats on the question of leasing it out. This dispute was



then settled by the District Magistrate, and the land was reserved for pasturage. How then has it been leased out now? Government ought to take steps to prevent zemindars from leasing out pasture lands.

(g)—*Railways and Communications, including Canals and Irrigation.*

32. Referring to the recent attempt to wreck a train at Khurja in the Aligarh district, the *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 12th

Attempts at wrecking trains.

April says:—

This is the fifth attempt to wreck trains within the last 9 or 10 days, and it was surely made with the object of wrecking the Punjab mail train. Travelling by rail and steamer has, for Indians specially, already many attendant risks. There are the risks of hot axles, collision, dacoity in running trains, outrage by drunken White soldiers, haughtiness of high and low placed Europeans or *Feringhis*, outrage of women, slipping of feet while entering into or getting down from trains, and sweeping off of lines by floods and trains by storms. The naturally homekeeping timid Bengali is already reluctant to undertake railway journeys on account of these risks. If over and above these, he has to face the risk of trains being wrecked by *budmashes*, he will shudder at the thought of travelling in them. The situation, therefore, stands in urgent need of amelioration. Even the *Englishman* has, in this connection, been obliged to charge the police with want of ability and say, echoing what we have been saying for a long time: "It is little use strengthening the law for dealing with continuous outrages unless the hands of the police are also strengthened, so as to enable them to trace down culprits." We have all along been saying that there is a want of able officers in the Police Department.

NAYAK,  
April 12th, 1913.

33. A correspondent of the *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 10th April suggests that, for the convenience of

Howrah Railway station—a suggestion.

intending third class passengers at Howrah station, an enquiry office should be opened near the third class booking offices, and the existence of this Enquiry office should be notified by Hindi and Bengali sign-boards. The functions of this office should be to tell the illiterate men who constitute the majority of third class passengers, what train they are to travel in, what fare they are to pay and from what booking office they are to buy their tickets. The existing signboards on the platform and notices being all written in English, are of no help whatever to the illiterate masses.

ANANDA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
April 10th, 1913.

34. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 12th April says that the utmost

Inconvenience of female railway passengers.

inconvenience and trouble are caused to Indian women at railway stations, on account of there being no fixed spot on platforms for female compartments in trains to stand by, and also on account of there being no distinctive mark differentiating a female compartment from a male one. In the dim light of stations at night *pardanashin* women who are not accustomed to knocking about, have to run up and down platforms through throngs of male passengers, in order to find out female compartments. The writer, therefore, suggests that there should be a fixed spot or spots on the platform beside which female compartments should invariably be made to stand, and that in trains also female compartments should occupy fixed positions. The carrying out of these small suggestions will remove a source of great inconvenience to female passengers.

BASUMATI,  
April 12th, 1913.

35. The *Sanjay* [Faridpur] of the 14th March complains that the extreme irregularity of the train service between Faridpur and Rajbari, has been causing great inconvenience

A Railway complaint.

to passengers. The mid-day train from Faridpur to Rajbari corresponds to No. 4 Down mail train which takes its passengers to Calcutta. But, for some time past, it is not being able to arrive at Rajbari before the arrival of the mail train. Consequently, passengers for Calcutta are being obliged to take the following mixed train which arrives at Sealdah at about 1 A. M. This is extremely troublesome to all passengers, and particularly to women and

SANJAY,  
Mar. 14th, 1913.



children. The writer considers that the guard of the Faridpur-Rajbari train is responsible for the delay in its arrival at Rajbari.

CHANDU MINIR  
Apl. 8th, 1913.

36. The *Chand Minir* [Mymensingh] of the 8th April writes that various alignments have been suggested from time to time of the projected railway line from Mymensingh *via* Tangail to Aircha. The cheapest and most profitable route to take will be to start from the Banshi or Sorishabari, proceed *via* Pingna or Vengula and end at Tangail. There should also be established at Pinga or Vengula a new subdivision or at least an independent Bench.

NIHAR,  
Apl. 15th, 1913.

37. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 15th April writes there is now a large number of people constantly crossing over from Contai to the Sunderbans and back, and the journey is performed in frail boats which often capsize causing loss of life. Recently, on the 11th *Chaitra* last, four boats carrying quite a large number of women and children and men, thus capsized when a strong breeze was blowing. Government is seeking to encourage the opening up of the Sunderbans. The process will be materially accelerated if a steamer service is organized to replace the existing service of boats.

GAUDA DUTA,  
Apl. 7th, 1913.

38. The *Gauda Duta* [Malda] of the 7th April urges on the Government the necessity of dredging the silted up mouth of the Kalindi river in the Malda district. The silting up of the mouth of the river has injured the health and trade of the district.

(A)—General.

BANGAVASI,  
Apl. 12th, 1913.

Behaviour of lower railway and police officers towards respectable Indians.

39. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 12th April says:—

Even highly respectable men of our country, are frequently insulted by railway and police officers of lower ranks. These officers are generally recruited from the lower strata of society. Consequently, they are naturally prone to be uncivil to respectable Indians. Recently the Hon'ble Rai Radha Charan Pal Bahadur was insulted on the *Buckland* jetty at Howrah by a European sergeant, the Hon'ble Babu Surendranath Banerji was insulted by two native police constables and a European sergeant, three pandits were insulted by a Punjabi Sub Inspector of the Calcutta Police and the Hon'ble Baba Ramoni Mohon Dass was expelled from a railway carriage by a Station Master and the District Traffic Superintendent of the Assam-Bengal Railway. Innumerable such cases may be cited. But what is the punishment that the delinquents generally get? They escape all punishment by tendering apologies. Apologies are no doubt deterrents, but they are so only in men possessed of the sense of self-respect and not in the class of men who swamp the lower ranks of the Railway and the Police service. Government should, therefore, take steps for giving them substantial punishment. Is it not deplorable that men whom Governors and the Viceroy address as "my friend" and with whom these exalted dignitaries shake hands, should be called "bloody nigger," and roughly handled by a European sergeant.

ANANDA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
April 10th, 1913.

40. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* [Calcutta] of the 10th April cannot understand how Sir Guy Wilson could, during his farewell speech in Council, talk of a prosperous India. It is true that, during his five years of office, there has been no serious or extensive famine in the country, but still local famines have not been entirely absent, *e.g.*, the famine in the United Provinces, during his first year of office, in Kattywar last year, etc. Such phenomena would not be possible in a country which was increasing in prosperity. Furthermore, prices of food-crops are rising all over the country, making existence a misery for the middle-class *bhadralog*. The country is also afflicted with epidemics of malaria, plague, cholera, etc., which people cannot properly fight because of their poverty. The fact is all this talk of India's



prosperity is possible only for men who live in cities and towns and have never seen anything of the actualities of life in the rural areas.

41. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April sarcastically writes that the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, in the course of their evidence before the Islington Commission, have protested against any increased appointment of Indians to higher public offices, on the old pleas that efficiency would suffer thereby and the British character of the administration would suffer. The former plea has been repeatedly exposed by our leading men, and we may dismiss it for the present. As to the latter, we want to know whether the test of the British character of the administration is the mere existence of a number of Englishmen in the service, and not conformity to the spirit of British rule in England. Now, there is a difference as wide as that between Heaven and Hell, between the system of Indian rule and the system of British rule. Officials here have long been exercising despotic sway, and only recently has there been any infusion of the representative element into the administration, and any desire to consult public opinion. Nevertheless, it is undeniable that the present system of Indian rule has been the result of a series of political experiments, and none has ever professed that it is based on the model of the British administration at home. We recall what Lord Morley emphatically stated about the prospect of autonomy in India, some time ago, when Indians demanded self-government. What the Chamber really mean, therefore, by talking of the British character of the rule is the presence, in large numbers, of Britishers in the higher offices. It would have been well if they had plainly stated this, instead of resorting to devious ways of expression intended to discredit Indian officers. Such frankness would not have been blamed, for everybody knows that they are here for strictly selfish and worldly purposes.

In a similar spirit, we cannot blame the Chamber for frankly upholding the present unjust and unpopular union of the Judicial and Executive functions, as calculated to uphold British prestige. What we object to, emphatically, is the hypocrisy which underlies utterances of theirs like the following:—

The educated Indian, they say, "will find ample scope for all his energies in the commercial and industrial development of the great country which he has unfortunately so long neglected. And until this development has reached a very much more advanced stage than it has reached at present, it cannot be to his advantage."

It is all very sweet and specious—these professions of anxiety to better the lot of the educated Indian. This is patronising in tone, and very sage advice it is. But the Chamber cannot but be aware of the obvious truth that educated Indians cannot, in the near future, start many new industries in the face of the existing foreign competition and legal disabilities. The Chamber is strong in the enjoyment of official favour, and it could have shown genuine sympathy with Indians if it had, in a single instance, encouraged Indians to start new industries in co-operation with its members. As a matter of fact, it has no such desire and it wants to shut Indians, besides, out of high offices. This profession of sympathy is all a sham. This is to be inferred if only because the *Englishman* is exultant at this letter of the Chamber's. God save educated India from such friends.

42. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April, referring to the opinion expressed by the Bombay Government against simultaneous Civil Service Examinations, writes that probably other Local Governments will echo this view. On the occasion of the last Aitchison Commission, the Madras Government declared itself in favour of simultaneous examinations, but this time probably all the Local Governments will be found unanimous. But this decay of sympathy for Indians on the part of officials is really inexplicable. Indians are gradually progressing industrially, and improving in competence. So it is only fitting that the opinion in favour of simultaneous examinations should now be popular among officials rather than the reverse. It is a great pity this lack of sympathy, but it can be explained. In the old days Indians were extremely backward, educationally. That is why Europeans were very profuse in promises to them provided they became fit. Now, however, they see that Indians are qualifying themselves rapidly, and are making demands

HITAVADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

HITAVADI,  
April 11th, 1913.



for the fulfilment of those promises. Anyway, the time has now come for officials to understand that the time for sweet words is past. Repeated Royal utterances give Indians a claim to high offices. So, any effort to restrict their ambition in this direction will create discontent.

HITAVADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

43. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April writes that lately there was a rumour that Government contemplated appointing two selected officers of the Police Department to

"An unfounded rumour".

be a Deputy Magistrate and a Sub-Deputy Magistrate every year. It is now known that Government does not intend doing any such thing, but the Inspector-General of Police may recommend any of his officers for a Deputy or a Sub-Deputy Magistrateship, and Government may or may not accept such recommendation. An officer of the police appointed to the judiciary will naturally exhibit a partiality for the police. With the existing combination of Judicial and Executive functions, the selection of police officers to be Magistrates will considerably augment the risk of failures of justice. If meritorious officers of the Police Department are to be rewarded, let them be promoted to higher offices in the Department itself.

SANJIVANI,  
April 10th, 1913.

44. The *Sanjivani* [Calcutta] of the 10th April publishes a letter from a *Sadhu* of Brindaban, dwelling on the anguish of mind caused to the orthodox Hindus of the place by

Shooting at Brindaban.

the way in which shooting parties of Europeans frequently pass through the crowded portion of the town, in full parade with horses, elephants etc. This obtrusive way greatly wounds Hindu susceptibilities, and Government should warn would-be shooters to be more careful.

BARISAL HITAIISHI,  
April 7th, 1913.

45. The *Barisal Hitaiishi* [Barisal] of the 7th April says that, for some years past, the paddy crops in the locality of Gaurnadi in the Bakarganj district have been proving all chaff and no substance, with the exception of the

An agricultural peculiarity in the Bakarganj district.

crops sown in the jute season. The attention of the Agricultural Department is drawn to the matter.

TRIPURA GUIDE,  
April 8th, 1913.

46. The *Tripura Guide* [Comila] of the 8th April highly commends the

The proposed enlargement of the scope of the Bengal Agricultural Department.

Hon'ble Mr. B. Chakrabarty's proposal in the Bengal Legislative Council to enlarge the scope of the Agricultural Department. If the vast tracts

of land which now lie waste in Bengal are opened to the educated middle class for cultivation, their present distress will be appreciably relieved.

CHARU MIHIR,  
April 8th, 1913.

47. The *Charu Mihir* [Mymensingh] of the 8th April emphatically

The case of Rajendra Narain Singh of Bhagalpur.

deprecates the recent action of the Government in declaring, in the Bihar Council, that Messrs. Hammod and Lyall were not to blame as regards

the part they took in the case of Rajendra Narain Singh of Bhagalpur. This is calculated to impair the prestige of the High Court. Why did not Government produce, before the High Court, the evidence on which they now hold these officers innocent? Government cannot be a gainer by acts like these. Happily, the public faith in the High Court still continues unimpaired no matter what Government may do.

BANGAVASI,  
April 12th, 1913.

48. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 12th April considers the attitude taken up by the Government of Behar and Orissa and

Ibid.

the Government of India, *anent* the case of Babu Rajendra Narain Sinha, as highly detrimental to the prestige of the High Court.

HITAVADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

49. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April writes:—

The Jagatsi inquiry.

At the time that Dayanand and some other members of the Jagatsi *Asram* were arrested, there were various allegations made that the police had committed oppressions of various kinds, such as opening fire on unarmed people, breaking idols, looting property after breaking open boxes and the like. It was also stated that after arrest, when the prisoners were being taken to Maulvi Bazar, they were subjected to various hardships, were even denied water to drink when they felt thirsty. When there was a great outcry over the matter on all sides, the authorities asked the Deputy Commissioner of the Division to hold an enquiry. Our readers know the manner in which that inquiry was conducted and its results have now been published. The Commissioner holds that the



police were in no way to blame, that it was the inmates of the *Asram* who were bad characters and that they brought these troubles on themselves. The Chief Commissioner has issued a Resolution wholeheartedly accepting this finding.

We cannot now discuss this Resolution in detail, but we notice that the Chief Commissioner has indulged in a good deal of irrelevant talk. The Deputy Commissioner was directed to hold the inquiry strictly with reference to the incidents of the 8th July. The evidence he took related to the happenings on this date. But we see that the Resolution sets forth all that the diary of the *Asram* show to have happened from the 30th June to the 7th July. Anyway, the telegraphic message from the police to the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner to the effect that the inmates of the *Asram* had fired shots on the 6th July is dismissed as a trifling matter. The authorities believe that it was sent under a misapprehension. But there is a full and detailed mention made of everything, however trifling, which any of the inmates of the *Asram*, however humble, had described in his diary.

Sir Archdale Earle has tried to make it out that the *Asram* was a centre of immorality, and a source of annoyance and dread to the local population. It is said that the hideous conduct of the inmates of the *Asram* and the music of cymbals they indulged in day and night, had vexed them sorely. They were actually apprehensive lest any of their relatives should any day steal their money and ornaments and take refuge in the *Asram*. The authorities had received one or two petitions to this effect, and they have quoted a passage from the *Surama*, the local newspaper, with the intent to prove that the inmates of the *Asram* were men of despicable character. The Chief Commissioner, by referring to all these matters, wants to prove that the police did not go to the *Asram* without cause. Lest the public should imagine that the police, from a baseless suspicion, committed oppression on a body of inoffensive *Sannyasis*, the Commissioner has taken care in this Resolution clearly to describe the doings of Dayanand and his followers, male and female. Indeed, there has been incorporated into the Report a summary of an article from a Bengali newspaper, which, as a class, Government looks down upon. The Report gives very important items of information, all culled from the *Surama*, such as that Dayanand used to wear silk clothing, to use scented hair oils etc. It is doubtful if the Commissioner would unhesitatingly have accepted the statements of a Bengali newspaper, if they had not happened to be very welcome to him.

Anyway, the Commissioner might well have avoided all these irrelevant topics. Dayanand and his followers may be rogues, their *Asram* might have been an abode of sin, and their *Sankirtans* might have given offence to their neighbours. These are grievancies for which the law courts provide redress. It was open to Government to suppress the *Asram*. The point to decide is whether Dayanand, and his followers, might not have been punished without any unjustifiable display of cruelty, without even women having been violently thrashed, without the *Asram* idols having been desecrated and *Asram* property having been stolen.

We notice that the Commissioner feels constrained to admit that the arm of one of the images of Gauranga in the *Asram* was broken. But he says that there was no proof that this arm did not get broken by accident; and further, that the superior officers were at that time walking round the *Asram*, and they would not permit any desecration of the idols in any way. This remark is not the outcome of the inquiry, but the expression of a mere personal opinion on the part of the Chief Commissioner.

As regards the looting of property, it is said that there is no trustworthy evidence available as to what property there was in the *Asram* and what was its value. Different accounts have been given, some saying that property worth about Rs. 8,000 was stolen. The list of articles which Dayanand is reported to have prepared at Sylhet was not furnished to the authorities, and the men in whose charge the things were did not come forward to give evidence. The Commissioner says that the ornaments of the women in the *Asram* were sold from time to time to pay the expenses of the establishment, so there were not many left. If any of particular value had existed,



special care would have been taken of it. It is true that subsequently a constable was found in possession of some *Asram* property, but he was punished for it.

The Commissioner has sorrowfully admitted that some women and men were hurt and the prisoners, in being taken to Maulvi Bazar, subjected to much suffering, but he says that it was all inevitable and not the result of deliberation.

Let the reader now reflect on this Resolution. The Commissioner holds the desecration of an idol a trifling offence. The stealing of common things is also a petty matter. During the search, the things belonging to the *Asram* were not supervised, because there was nothing of any great value. And the harassments which they have suffered, they brought on themselves by their own conduct, the police were in no way to blame. It is needless to say that we are not pleased with this outcome of the inquiry.

BANGAVASI,  
Apl. 12th, 1913.

50. The *Bangavasi* [Calcutta] of the 12th April is shocked at the revelations made in the Jagatsi enquiry, and thanks Sir Archdale Earle for the trouble he has taken over

The Jagatsi enquiry.

the matter. The writer, however, thinks that he ought not to have placed implicit faith in all the findings of the Commissioner who held the enquiry and the evidence of the sole inmate of the *Asram* who praised the attitude of Government officers in the affair.

BASUMATI,  
Apl. 12th, 1913.

Paucity of postal runners.

51. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 12th April says:—

Our contemporary of the *Jasohar* complains that, for want of runners, many places in the Jessore District are suffering greatly from irregularity of postal service. The reason for the paucity of runners is the continuance of the old rate of their pay, in spite of the fact that wages have become double within recent times throughout the district. Agriculture also has become immensely more profitable in these days than it was before, on account of increase in the prices of agricultural products. If a man can earn Rs. 15 per month by working as a day-labourer or cultivating a few pieces of land, why should he serve the Government for Rs. 8 only per month?

The obstinacy of the Postal authorities in refusing to increase the pay of runners is, under the circumstances, most unreasonable, and is being felt not only in Jessore but throughout Bengal.

TRIPURA GUIDE,  
Apl. 8th, 1913.

52. The *Tripura Guide* [Comilla] of the 8th April says that the proposed abolition of the Kasba Munsifi Chowki will cause great inconvenience to the local public.

The Kasba Munsifi in the  
Tippera District.

Kasba is a very healthy place and a big railway station. It is joined with Agartala and Brahmanberia by big District Board roads. The existence of a Munsifi Chowki at Kasba has led to great prosperity of the local High School. The proposed abolition of the chowki will ruin the school.

TRIPURA GUIDE,  
Apl. 8th, 1913.

The proposed new Subdivision  
in the Tippera District.

53. Anent the proposed establishment of a new Subdivision in the Tippera District, the *Tripura Guide* [Comilla] of the 8th April writes

as follows in English:—

Now, the two very important questions which arise in this connection are (1) whether the munsifis will be transferred from the very inception of the Subdivision and (2) whether on account of the curtailment of the Brahmanbaria Sub-division, the Chowkis at Nabinagar and Kasba, or either of them will be eliminated.

We have no doubt that the starting of a Subdivision without transferring the Civil Courts from the beginning, will entail great hardship on the people. As for the other question, we hope the authorities will kindly give the people of Nabinagar and Kasba opportunities to speak out in case any change affecting them should be in contemplation.

PALLIVASI,  
Apl. 9th, 1913.

54. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 9th April says that it will be a great misfortune if an Indian style of architecture is not followed in constructing new Delhi. Lord

Hardinge himself has said, "My personal inclination is towards an Oriental style of architecture". His Excellency is, therefore, requested to advise the architects to follow an Indian style.



## III.—LEGISLATION.

55. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April is sorry to hear that the elections to the Imperial Council. Mr. S. N. Banerjee and the Maharaja Kanjit Singh have been set aside. It is also complained that Mr. Bhupendra Nath Bose was not done full justice to at the time of the election.

HITAVADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

## V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Prices of food-grains in Midnapore.

56. The *Nihar* [Contai] of the 15th April writes that the prices of food-grains all over Midnapore District are rising, to the consequent distress of the poor. There has been also a simultaneous growth of petty crimes, like thefts.

NIHAR,  
April 15th, 1913.

## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

57. The *Nayak* [Calcutta] of the 9th April, referring to the suffragette outrages in England. outrages, contrasts the way in which these suffragettes, while in prison, deliberately starve themselves, though thereby they bring on themselves forcible feeding with all its attendant shame, with the fuss made by the Bengali newspapers about the slightest ill treatment which Bengali bomb conspirators may suffer in the Andamans. The difference arises from the fact that the suffragette is a genuine article, while the Indian bombthrower is a sham whose work cannot shake the society in which he moves.

NAYAK,  
April 9th, 1913.

Now as to these suffragettes, it is the men of England who are to blame for the excesses in which these suffragettes are indulging. They want women to earn their own living independently, and naturally these women now have political ambitions roused in their minds. Any brutality committed by men in putting down these women, is sure to bring about the natural downfall of England. It is to be hoped that India will be spared all such suffragette demonstrations.

The alleged Balkan atrocities. 58. Referring to the Balkan atrocities the *Muhammadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April writes as follows:—

MUHAMMADI,  
April 11th, 1913.

Alas Englishmen! Alas England! Is this your duty? You are not uttering a single word while Musalmans, who are your right hand, are being horribly massacred. We bear, and will bear, quietly such conduct on your part because we are loyal subjects, but remember that the Ruler of the universe will not bear it.

59. The *Hablul Matin* [Calcutta] of the 15th April says that the Turkish-Italian war, though it ended in Turkey's defeat, did a service of the utmost importance to Turkey by uniting the entire Musalman race scattered throughout the world in mutual sympathy, love and fellow-feeling. It awoke a feeling of oneness among all the Musalmans in the world, which made them all friends of Turkey. It is this self-realization of the Musalman race which has come to be known as Pan-Islamism. Futurity will show what benefit it will bring to the Musalman race. It is hoped that before long all the Musalmans of the world will form one vast nation.

HABUL MATIN,  
Apr. 15th, 1913.

60. Referring to the close of the Bengali year, the *Barisal Hitaishi* [Barisal] of the 7th April deplores the decrease of people's attachment to *swadeshim*, and the growing increase of the sale of foreign articles, and requests all authorities of *melas*, which are held throughout Bengal in the month of *Baisakh*, not to allow the sale of foreign trinkets and stationery in them.

BARISAL HITASHI,  
Apr. 7th, 1913.

The decadence of *swadeshim* mourned.



**BASUMATI,**  
Apl. 12th, 1913.

61. The *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 12th April rejoices at the growing interest which the Musalman community is taking in political matters, and the freedom and courage which it is gradually showing in expressing their opinion on political questions. The Resolutions passed by the Moslem League at Lucknow demanding colonial Self-Government and separation of Judicial and Executive functions, and the evidence of Musalmans before the Public Services Commission in favour of Simultaneous Civil Service Examinations furnish unmistakable evidence of the political awakening of the Musalman community. The barrier between Hindus and Musalmans in the political field is thus breaking down. Some Anglo-Indians are trying to keep it up, but it is doubtful whether they will succeed in the attempt.

**BASUMATI,**  
April 12th, 1913.

62. Referring to Lord Carmichael's speech in the ceremony of unveiling Lord Curzon's statue in the Calcutta Maidan, the *Basumati* [Calcutta] of the 12th April says:—

Lord Curzon's name is, in our mind, inseparably connected with the Partition of Bengal, which he carried out by trampling mercilessly on public opinion. Lord Carmichael has rightly said that no ruler who persists in carrying out his object with a total disregard for public opinion, can command public respect. The wrong done to the Bengalis by the Partition of their country has, however, been graciously righted by His Imperial Majesty. As regards ability, India has had very few Viceroys like Lord Curzon. In the matter of his dispute with Lord Kitchener Indian public opinion was on his side, but his previous conduct towards the Indians prevented its being given a full expression to. It is noteworthy that while popular rulers like Sir Henry Cotton, Lord Ripon and so forth have not yet been honoured with statues, the memory of such rulers as trampled on public opinion in the country is being perpetuated in it by statues.

**HITAVADI,**  
April 11th, 1913.

63. The *Hitavadi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April writes that Lord Sydenham is an able statesman, efficient administrator and sweet-spoken official. His rule of Bombay has won him the esteem of the people and the favour of the Government. We are pleased to see His Lordship feted before his departure, but we cannot understand why he objected to the release of Mr. Tilak. This will be a perpetual reproach to his rule.

**PALLIVASI,**  
Mar. 29th, 1913.

64. The *Pallivasi* [Kalna] of the 29th March rebukes the *Indian Mirror* newspaper for considering Mr. Surendranath Banerjee's opposition to hurrying the Conspiracy Bill through the Legislative Council as amounting to an indifference to the paramount necessity of suppressing anarchism.

Mr. Surendranath Banerjee and the Conspiracy Bill—the *Indian Mirror's* view.

**MOSLEM HITAIISHI,**  
April 11th, 1913.

65. The *Moslem Hitaiishi* [Calcutta] of the 11th April agrees in substance with Mr. Fazlul Huq's speech in Council during the budget debates. It is true that the rescission of the Partition has dissatisfied Moslems. Their educational progress will not be so fast under the new arrangements as it would have been with a separate Government of Eastern Bengal. Poverty prevents them from giving their children a regular education, and Moslems pray for some separate arrangement whereby education can be made cheap for their community.

RAJENDRA CHANDRA SASTRI,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE;  
The 19th April 1913.

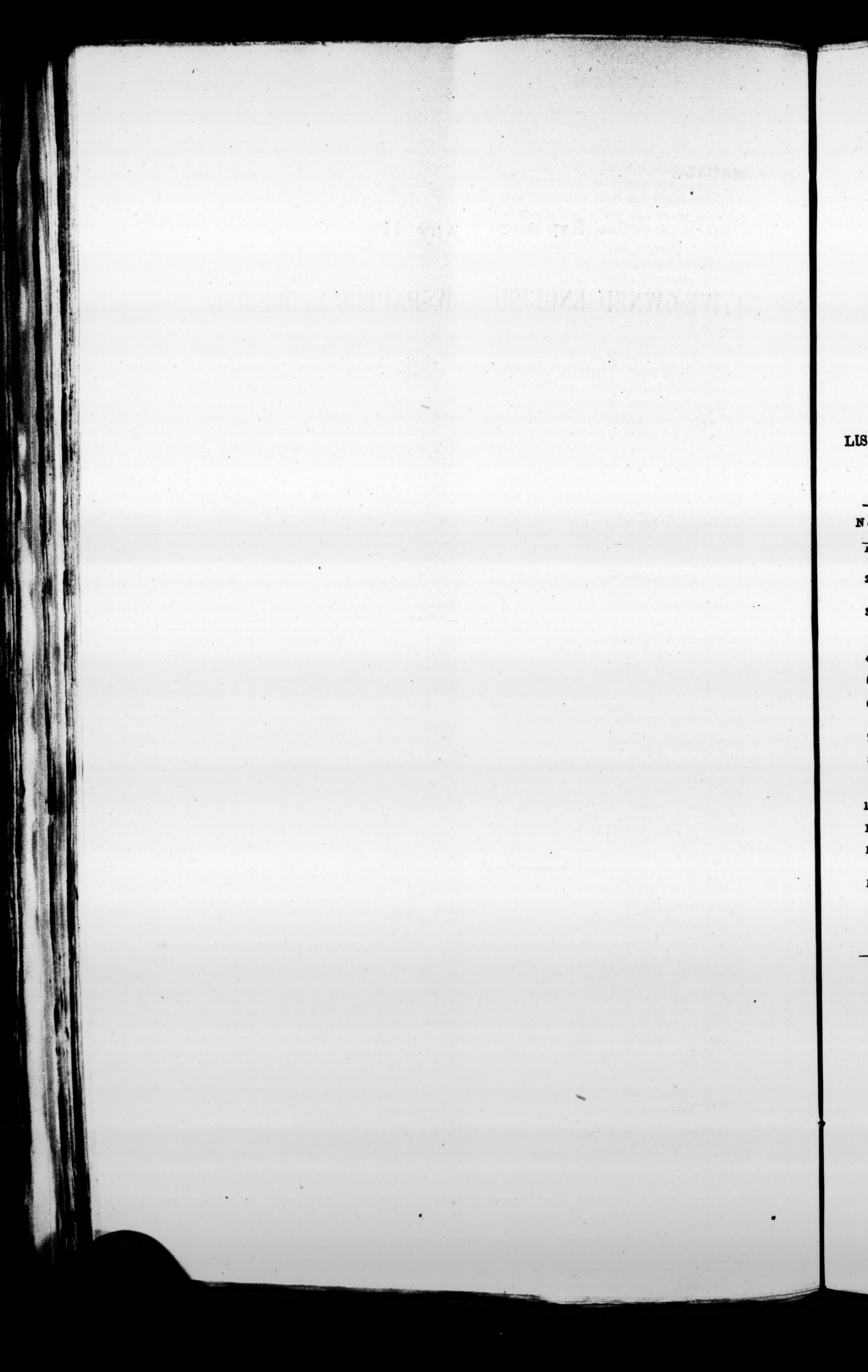


**REPORT (PART II)**  
ON  
**NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS IN BENGAL**  
FOR THE  
**Week ending Saturday, 19th April 1913.**

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**LIST OF NATIVE-OWNED ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED AND DEALT WITH  
BY THE BENGAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH.**

*[As it stood on 1st March 1913.]*

No.	Name of Publication.	Where published.	Edition.	Name, caste and age of Editor.	Circulation.
1	"Amrita Bazar Patrika"	Calcutta	Daily	Kali Prasanna Chatarji, age 48, Brahmin	1,500 to 4,000
2	"Bengalee" ...	Ditto	Do.	Surendra Nath Banarji and Kali Nath Roy.	6,500 to 8,500
3	"Hindoo Patriot"	Ditto	Do.	Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari, age 44, and Kailash Chandra Kanjilal, pleader, Small Cause Court, also contributes.	800 to 1,000
4	"Indian Empire"	Ditto	Weekly	Kishori Mohan Banerji and H. Dutt	2,000
5	"Indian Mirror"	Ditto	Daily	Satyendra Nath Sen	1,000 to 1,500
6	"Indian Nation"	Ditto	Weekly	Nareish Chandra Sarbadhikari and Srish Chandra Sarbadhikari.	1,300
7	"Indian World"	Ditto	Do.	Prithvis Ch. Ray	500 to 1,000
8	"Mussalman"	Ditto	Do.	A. Rasul and M. Rahman	1,000 to 1,500
9	"Reis and Rayyet"	Ditto	Do.	Jogesh Chandra Dutt, age 61 years	400
10	"Telegraph"	Ditto	Do.	Satyendra Kumar Bose	2,000
11	"Herald"	Dacca	Do.	Priyo Nath Sen	...
12	"East"	Do.	Bi-weekly	.....	.....
13	"World's Messenger" ...	No. 18, Kali Prasad Chakrabarty's Street.	Monthly (English).	Raghu Probir Mitra (Hindu), age 22 years.	100 copies.
14	"Current Indian Cases" (a law paper).	No. 1-1, College Square, East.	Ditto	Monindra Nath Mitter and Brothers (Kayastha), age 32 years.	Ditto.







## I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

TELEGRAPH.  
19th Apr. 1913.

449. The *Telegraph* writes that the victorious Bulgars are now eager to make peace. And the reason is ascribed to the loss sustained before the ramparts of Adrianople during the last six months, as also the serious reverse at Chatalja resulting in the annihilation of two whole regiments recruited from the best families in Bulgaria. The case, therefore, looks pretty much like victory on defeat. Except at Adrianople, and for the first time at Chatalja, it has no doubt been a series of defeats for the Turks, but evidently the numbers of the Osmanlis have told. As will be seen from Reuter's messages, the chances of a more serious European conflagration have not disappeared. On the other hand, according to many, the situation is getting more critical every day. Austria is almost on the war-path; and any day the negotiations might break off and the mask removed, showing the angry visage behind. And if the worse comes to the worst, matters would assume a far more serious outlook than has been the case hitherto. May that day never come!

## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

INDIAN WORLD.  
9th Apr. 1913.

450. "Political dakaities" "recrudescence of anarchical activity," and phrases of this kind is what the *Indian World* reads of daily. And yet how wide are they from the truth. There are no such things as political dakaities in these days, nor has anarchism raised its head again in Bengal or anywhere else. The fact of the matter is that all dakaities are alike,—robbery, pure and simple—and inspired by the same motive—personal gain. The main reason for the wide prevalence of this particular kind of dakaiti in Bengal may be traced to purely economic causes—indescribable want and indigence among the upper and lower middle classes. The journal quite admits that a large number of men who pass as *bhadralok* have taken to this profession for the very good reason that they have nothing else to fall back upon. Caste rules have made it impossible for them to cultivate the land or seek menial service: they have no equipment to enter into any profession: no decent means of livelihood are open to them in trade, commerce or any other avenue. How are these men then to keep their body and soul together? In dakaities some of them, at least, have found the salvation of their earthly existence. As for the morality of the thing, well, modern environment does not much encourage ethical scruples, and then the extremists have taught all that Sree Krishna enjoined in the *Bhagavad Gita* that very often the means is justified by the end and that nothing is unfair in war or in the struggle for existence. Has not Wordsworth also sung of the good old rule, the simple plan "that they should take who have the power, and they should keep who can"? How complicated is modern civilisation becoming and yet none are waking up to its dark side.

TELEGRAPH.  
12th Apr. 1913.

451. So, the commission of dakaities by mere armed gangs, that is, by ruffians armed with guns and revolvers, is no longer any proof, writes the *Telegraph*, of the participation of *bhadralok* in them. A recent case in the suburban district of the 24-Parganas near Barnipur causes this reflection. It is stated that a gang of low-class men armed with firearms raided a villager's house and carried off whatever they could lay hands on. When this is possible, why should not dakaities in other parts of the Presidency, which are naïvely put down to the respectable classes, be held also to be committed by professional *budmashes*? At least such should be the assumption of all fair-minded people, in the absence of any direct proof of the complicity of *bhadralok*. There is evidence that even professional dakaitis have taken to dressing like respectable people in coats, shirts or pants and performing their nefarious work with the aid of firearms, swords, spears, etc. Such being the case, it is hoped



INDIAN MIRROR,  
12th Apr. 1913.

the police would divest themselves of preconceived ideas and set about in right earnest to detect dakaities no matter by whom these might be perpetrated.

452. The *Indian Mirror* writes that the administrators sometimes find

The police publicly defended  
against popular attacks.

it expedient to defend the police publicly against popular attacks. But it would be a mistake to suppose that they are ignorant of the shortcomings

of that body or that they are lax in their endeavours to improve the police force. Sir William Duke's recent *apologia* in the Council Chamber is very significant. He recognised that the police required both increase in numbers and improvement in training to make them more efficient. On these points there can be no difference of opinion. In explaining the failure of the police in detecting dakaities Sir William very rightly drew attention to the inadequacy of the police force. 'There is only one police-station to about a hundred square miles of territory. Then, as Sir William pointed out, the modern dakait is not slow to take advantage of the improved facilities of communication. Again, to borrow his own words: "At the scene of the crime there is no one who knows any of them (the dakaites), except perhaps a single accomplice who brought them there, but was himself careful not to appear" These facts undoubtedly exonerate the police, but do they not at the same time show that the people also are helpless? Is it right to say that the people know the criminals, but will not give information through sheer perversity? In connection with the dastardly outrage at Delhi, many Anglo-Indian papers and several Anglo-Indian individuals of rank have openly suggested that the crime must have been witnessed by many of the natives present and that they are now screening the offender. Suspicion is akin to that green-eyed monster jealousy. Unjust and unfounded accusations can only have the effect of alienating the feelings of loyal and well-disposed persons. Those who lightly indulge in them do a distinct disservice to the Empire.

AMRITA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
18th Apr. 1913

453. Sir William Byles, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* hears, put questions in the House of Commons regarding the result of some police torture cases, and the reply of Mr. Montagu

elicited the fact that the views of the local Governments on the question of the alteration of the law permitting confessions to be used against prisoners are now under the consideration of the Government. Considering the fact that the people are most vitally interested in the matter, one wonders how long it will be at this stage. "The only satisfaction," says Mr. Montagu, "we can feel—and it is not much satisfaction—is that the number of torture cases is diminishing." To the people, this "not much satisfaction" is further diminished by the fact that the torture cases that come before courts represent only a small part of those which really happen. In a word, a number of such cases never see the light of day, for it is a risky business to go against the all-powerful police.

#### (b)—Working of the Courts.

AMRITA BASAR  
PATRIKA,  
19th Apr. 1913.

454. Reverting to this subject, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks that

The Jagatshi Aoram enquiry.

the Jagatshi affair has several painful features, and one of them is this: If the public knew that

the police or the Gurkhas of the country were not above criticism or were often capable of sacrificing legality to an excessive zeal and humanity to brutality, they also knew that the heart of the administration was sound and that the higher representatives of the Crown were there to set matters right whenever any misdeeds on the part of their misguided underlings were brought to light. But how cruelly have they been disillusioned! Fancy even a wise and liberal-minded administrator like Sir A. Earle setting his seal of approbation on the unspeakable horrors that have been revealed in the course of the enquiry. These horrors, again, are not the products of fancies and imaginations, but terrible realities, testified to by scores of sufferers and eye-witnesses. Indeed, neither the gun-shots they received,—one of the wounded dying afterwards,—nor their broken limbs can lie. The only explanation of it is in the surmise that His Honour had not perhaps paid that serious attention to



the report of the Commissioner which it deserved and affixed his signature thereto as a matter of form. This is, however, a very poor consolation for the outraged public. Each of the grim disclosures bristling in the document is a dark blot on the administration of Assam.

455. Commenting on the judgment in the sensational Brindaban shooting case, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* thinks it ought to be read by every Englishman, official and non-official, civilian and military, who values the reputation of his nation, and who has the welfare of the Indian Empire at heart.

The judgment in the Brindaban shooting case.

The journal does not know what feeling its perusal is likely to arouse in the minds of Englishmen. For itself it freely confesses it could not go through it without being simply dazed. Fancy a half-starved Bairagi recluse armed with a *chimta* (tongs) pursuing three European soldiers armed with guns,—under a provocation of the worst character,—and the latter only running away for their very lives as if followed by a tiger,—one of them actually shooting him dead then and there deliberately. And the man who committed this blood-curdling deed on his trial is discharged by the trying Magistrate! Is such an incident possible in any country in the world? And is not the result of the trial calculated to create seething discontent in the country? The facts of the case, as already published, have fully borne out the story of the complainants. Indeed, a more despicable deed cannot be conceived. If it was a cowardly act to shoot a tame doe, it was a dastardly crime to level a gun and kill the owner of the animal simply because he used his "*chimta*" against the soldier. Then, again, there is scarcely a case on record where the soldier-witnesses for the defence have been proved to have been guilty of greater travesties of truth than the present one. They started their string of falsehoods by stating it was a buck and not a doe that they had shot at, no doubt, to hide the gross cowardliness of their act in killing a tame female animal. Then they wove out a tissue of lies with a view to represent their comrade (Hodgins the accused) as a helpless baby or a tender lady in the grip of an infuriated army of demons—the villagers. And the crass absurdity of the story went so far as to make even the trying Magistrate roundly condemn them as a set of liars. Fancy a *chamar* witness was held much more reliable than any of them. But, if the Magistrate was candid enough to admit the stuff the defence witnesses were made of, he has amply redressed the balance by straining every conceivable and inconceivable point in favour of the accused. The journal is almost sure nobody will be more ashamed of his grotesque performance than the Magistrate himself when time will make it slide back into the true perspective. Continuing its criticism on this judgment in its issue of the 18th instant, the journal remarks that if the Brindaban shooting case continues to exercise the Indian public as violently as on the day the report of the tragedy was first made known to the world, it is not because the people are perverse, but because there are some very peculiar features in it which are bound to move the human mind powerfully. Shooting of Indians by soldiers is unfortunately not a rare occurrence in this country, but this one, the paper is constrained to observe, perhaps beats all previous records hollow. Here was a domesticated deer wounded and a *sadhu* wantonly shot down dead in a sacred place by an armed soldier, who thereby not only set at naught the rules passed by the military authorities, but also the laws of both God and man. Nor is this all. When the outraged public prayed for justice, not only was the culprit allowed to get off scot-free—he was not punished even for a rash and negligent act—but the *sadhus*, who keep no concern with things mundane and much less with politics, were as a class branded by the Magistrate as full of "anti-British animus," without an iota of evidence to support this libellous accusation. Need any one now wonder why the case has produced such a profound impression throughout the whole country?

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.  
18th Apr. 1912.

456. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* thinks that when an ordinary man becomes unpopular, he, as a rule, loses his sleep and appetite; but apparently a member of the Executive Service considers himself thrice blessed when he happens to raise a hornet's nest around him. At least this seems to be a candid confession of faith of Babu Dwijendra Mohan Sen, Subdivisional

The Subdivisional Magistrate of Patuakhali.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA.  
18th Apr. 1912.



Magistrate of Patuakhali, according to the President of the Mukhtears' Samiti of that place. The latter wires the journal to say that Mr. Sen's conduct compelled the mukhtears thrice to stop their attendance in his court. On the first occasion, the Deputy Magistrate made up the matter with them by making an unqualified apology. On the second occasion, the matter was reported to the then District Magistrate and an amicable settlement was brought about through the intervention of the local Sub-Deputy Magistrate. On the 27th March, again, the Subdivisional Officer ordered in "an insulting tone" that "no mukhtear shall be allowed to sit in my court-room when I take *yahar* on petitions of complaint," with the result that litigants are suffering a good deal for want of legal help. Now, if the Deputy Magistrate is really behaving in this extraordinary manner, the higher authorities will no doubt intervene and set him right. But what seems to have made him specially conspicuous is a certain declaration which he is said to have made to show his contempt for public opinion. Says the correspondent, the President, Mukhtears' Samiti:—"We were astonished to hear Dwijen Babu saying, 'I don't care, for unpopularity is a thing which gave me a special promotion, and if I again become unpopular I expect another lift.'" The journal admires the candour of Dwijen Babu, for that is what really happens oftentimes in the case of unpopular officers in the Executive Service. The expression, "no conviction, no promotion" has now become an adage in the country. Indeed, as a fact, the more a Magistrate can convict and make himself unpopular, the greater is the chance of promotion. Similarly, the more he quarrels with public men, the more recognition he secures from his official superiors as a "firm" officer. It is, therefore, very natural that Babu Dwijendra Mohan should boast that his unpopularity, instead of harming him in any way, would be a passport for his future prospects. The declaration, if true, shows what a pass have some of these Deputy Magistrates come to.

(d)—Education.

INDIAN WORLD,  
9th Apr. 1913

457. The quiet town of Mymensingh is, remarks the *Indian World*, the scene of much excitement over the appointment of the Principal of the local college. It appears that the gentleman who has been selected is a second class M.A., very much junior in age, and without any experience in administrative work. The responsibility of the choice rests primarily with the College Committee, and its first mistake was to surrender its rights to the hands of the Director of Public Instruction. There was anything but unanimity in the Council, and the Magistrate, who is the President, had to make use of his casting vote. The decision is particularly unfortunate in view of the circumstance that it is about to be raised to the status of a first grade college. The Principal-elect was strongly recommended by some well known official, and the journal hopes that there are no political reasons behind the appointment.

HERALD,  
13th Apr. 1913

458. The unfortunate difference that has arisen in the Council of the Ananda Mohan College, Mymensingh, regarding the appointment of a Principal, has reached a stage in which, the *Herald* is of opinion, it becomes the clearest duty of the Director of Public Instruction to intervene in the interest of higher education in the province. It is a thousand pities that the College Council should fail in the manner they have done to come to a decision amongst themselves regarding the matter and that the affairs of a private institution like that of the Ananda Mohan College should have to be passed on to official hands for a satisfactory settlement. But this is a situation which has been created by the strange and most regrettable attitude taken up by the Magistrate, Mr. Spry, President of the College Council. The journal does not mean that no blame attaches to any members of the College Council, but rather thinks that there has been an amount of topsy-turvydom in the College Council which is certainly not very complimentary to the educational zeal of either of its President or of its members. The Council wanted to appoint an educationist of some repute, a



first class M.A., for the post of the Principal which was shortly to fall vacant. They required a really competent man as they were going to raise the college to the first grade. The Council resolved that they should have the services of a first class man, but Mr. Spry, it appears, advertised for one who could teach one of the following subjects:—English, Philosophy, Political Economy, Chemistry and Mathematics, and possessed administrative abilities also. The pay offered was not insufficient to attract a first-class man. But Mr. Spry did not advertise for a first-class M.A., and no first-class M.A. excepting, perhaps one, applied. There was, indeed, a first-class M.A., on the professorial staff of the college, a renowned Professor, viz., Babu Rajani Kanta Guha, formerly Principal of the Braja Mohan Institution, Barisal. Of Babu Rajani Kanta's well-known abilities and exceptional fitness for the post, there could be no doubt in the public mind, but he was no *persona grata* with the officials, although nobody knew why. A former Inspector of Schools found him "indiscreet" and perhaps scented "politics" in him, and Rajani Babu knew he could not be tolerated. So when Mr. Spry advised or warned him not to apply for the Principalship of the Ananda Mohan College, he knew that the Magistrate meant what he said. Thus there was no first-class M.A. to be had—the only gentleman who applied having in the meantime withdrawn his candidature. Thus Mr. Spry had the pleasure of proposing a second-rate man, one whose application had before this been twice rejected, and the Council that had twice found Babu A. C. Mazumdar unworthy of the responsible position now found him quite worthy. Of course, Mr. Mazumdar had the Director of Public Instruction's recommendation just as half a dozen others had and, of course, he was proposed by Magistrate Mr. Spry. And, of course, half the Council voted solid against him. But the Magistrate-President evidently thought a second-class man would make a first-class Principal of the Ananda Mohan College, which he was not quite sure was really going to be raised to the first grade. For, was not there the hospital scheme to be pushed forward? This is the long and short of the whole story anent the Principalship of the Ananda Mohan College, Mymensingh. The paper had been fearing it meant the chilling of public enthusiasm in the noble task of raising this most important educational institution of East Bengal—an institution that bears a noble name and has a brilliant past, a monument of private educational enterprise in this part—to the first grade. But the public of Mymensingh and all friends of higher education have reason to be profoundly grateful to Mr. Spry for the extraordinary manner in which he has succeeded in rousing popular interest in the cause of the Ananda Mohan College. The obvious moral of the above is that the people of Mymensingh must take the cause of the Ananda Mohan College in their own hands, that they must prepare for a singularly strenuous fight, a fight in which they are bound to win if the national self-respect is worth anything. And it is a glorious fight in which all Bengal must join hands with them.

459. The *Bengalee* now hears that the appointment of Babu Abinash Chandra Mazumdar as Principal of the Ananda Mohan College, Mymensingh. Mohan College has been cancelled. This is as it should be, and the journal desires to congratulate all concerned upon it. It would have been a blunder of the worst type to have appointed a man as Principal of the College whom the public of Mymensingh did not want—no matter what his qualifications might be—especially at a time when the success of the College so largely depends upon the readiness of the local public to co-operate with the authorities. The paper is sincerely glad that this blunder has been avoided.

BENGALUR.  
17th Apr. 1913.

460. The *Bengalee* writes that the Secretary of State has, on the recommendation of the Government of India, appointed Mr. Hornell, formerly of the Indian Educational Service in Bengal, and now occupying a responsible post at the Board of Education in England, to the Indian Educational Service and as Director of Public Instruction in Bengal. It is obvious that the reappointment of Mr. Hornell to the Indian Educational Service is intended to give him the necessary technical qualification for the office of Director of Public Instruction, while in the *communiqué* they have issued on the subject, the Government of India state some of the real qualifications of Mr. Hornell

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for the post to which he has been appointed. Mr. Hornell had served as Inspector and Assistant Director of Public Instruction in Bengal, and since his premature retirement from the service he has been connected with the Board of Education in England. The knowledge of modern developments in education which Mr. Hornell has thus acquired will, it is said, be of great help to him in giving effect to the active policy of improvement and expansion of education in Bengal, especially primary and secondary education. These are undoubtedly high qualifications, and the journal says at once that the Indian community will be very ready to give Mr. Hornell a trial.

INDIAN MIRROR,  
17th Apr. 1913.

461. The *Indian Mirror* is afraid the official *communiqué* explaining the appointment of Mr. Hornell as Director of Public Instruction in Bengal will scarcely remove the idea that a grave injustice has been done to the Educational Service in India. The public does not dispute the worth of Mr. Hornell, but it requires better argument than that which has been offered to be convinced that the Educational Service in Bengal could not have furnished an equally worthy man for the post.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
16th Apr. 1913.

462. So all doubts, remarks the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, in regard to the successor of Mr. Kuchler have been set at rest, Mr. Hornell having been formally announced as the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal. This, according to the *Englishman*, means that the "strong protest raised by the Educational Service throughout India against the supersession of capable officials by outsiders has been ignored by Government." But it also means something more. It means that the Government cares as little for non-official Anglo-Indian public opinion as for Indian. Somehow or other, the secret in regard to the appointment of Mr. Hornell in place of Mr. Kuchler had oozed out and the Anglo-Indian press as a whole vehemently objected to this threatened jobbery. The result is, as has been stated, Government has given a slap on their faces by its present action. Well, the Government will only pat the Anglo-Indian press on the back so long as the latter supports its policy or echoes its views, but it will treat it as a child as soon as it finds that the latter cannot set its sail according to the draughts of its own policy. Now one may very well wonder what this effect of the new appointment, ostensibly for a period of five years, but really as good as permanent, will have upon the members of the service, both young and old, whose hopes of securing the only prize post available to them have all been blasted by one stroke of the pen. There are many young officers of the Indian Educational Service with whom Mr. Hornell must have been very popular, as in fact he had a hand in their recruitment in his capacity as Secretary of the Selection Board ever since its establishment. But it is quite another matter when he comes out in his new rôle and is placed over their head in supersession of their legitimate claims and aspirations. Then there are the senior officers to reckon with. One certainly should not be surprised to find men like Messrs. James, Peake, and Basu groaning under this unexpected and unwelcome stroke of policy, even if they submit to the decree of the Imperial Government as a point of discipline. Now that a junior officer—if not of "exceptional abilities," by no means of exceptional merit—has been actually called upon to rule the destinies of the Bengal Education Department, the journal will wait and watch what "new" policy he has to inaugurate in this land of policies and reforms and Royal Commissions.

BENGALURU,  
17th Apr. 1913.

463. Writing on the appointment of Mr. Hornell as Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, the *Bengalee* thinks that the position taken up by some of the Anglo-Indian papers is extraordinary. Indians have for all these

*Ibid.*

years been systematically excluded from the Indian Educational Service. Even a chemist of world-wide reputation like Dr. P. C. Ray has been relegated to the Provincial Service, while men, who might have been his pupils have been appointed to the superior service over his head. Yet not a single Anglo-Indian newspaper in any part of the country has ever raised its voice of protest against the arrangement, far less asked the Government to hold a public



enquiry into the matter. But as soon as a single appointment has been made which is calculated to interfere with the vested interests of a number of European educationists, the Anglo-Indian press is up in arms against the Government, and one journal goes so far as to demand a public enquiry into the circumstances of this appointment. In view of this attitude on the part of the Anglo-Indian press, it is necessary to state with the utmost definiteness the views of the Indian community. That community, let it be distinctly understood, will support no demand for a public enquiry which does not include within its scope the great question of the disabilities from which Indians suffer both in the Indian Educational Service and in so many other services. As regards Mr. Hornell, the journal has already said that public opinion in Bengal, by which is meant Indian opinion, will be very ready to give him a trial. Mr. Hornell was known to be a man of broad sympathies and of sound views when he was in this country some years ago, and the years he has passed in England and at the Education Board have, it has been said, only deepened his sympathies and broadened his outlook. Whether this has been so or not, only a trial can show. For the rest, the people of India have no reason to be unduly solicitous about safeguarding the interests of a practically exclusive Service.

464. Referring to a telegram of its Narainganj correspondent describing the alleged *sabardasti* acts of Inspector Stapleton in regard to the local school, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* observes that this need not surprise one who is aware of his past official career. He shone wonderfully during the Fuller régime, and performed feats which made him at once famous. Though an educational officer, he possessed extraordinary detective abilities and discovered "germs of sedition" in many a school which the strongest microscope failed to do. There was a great hue and cry among the people, but backed by the powerful executive head, he went on in his work of detection of sedition unconcerned. It seems that Mr. Stapleton has yet to know that the soil, so congenial to his growth, has ceased to exist and that a change has come over the *personnel* and spirit of the Government. The acts of Mr. Stapleton have created very great public indignation and disgust in East Bengal, and it is time that the Government should step in and put a check upon his whimsical performances.

AMRITA BAZAR  
PATRIKA,  
18th Apr. 1913.

(c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

465. The *Mussalman* once again calls the attention of the Government to the extremely inadequate representation of the Muhammadans in District and Local Boards and Municipalities, and as fair representation of the community is impossible under the existing conditions, points out to the authorities the indispensable need for statutory provision for adequate and effective representation of the Muhammadans in those bodies, but so far it has been in vain. The publication too of the electoral rolls by hanging them at police-stations for a day or so is a mere farce. The jurisdiction of a thana extends over 10, 20 or 25 miles, and how is it possible for people to know anything about the electoral lists from such distances? Moreover, a police-station is the last place where one would willingly go. So the publication of the electoral rolls in the manner suggested by Maulvi Abul Kasem, viz., that the rules be printed by the Collectors of districts and the lists sold to the public at a nominal price to meet the expenses, will be highly appreciated by the people and redress a genuine grievance. The journal thinks it has been able to show that a change in the rules relating to local self-governing bodies has become extremely necessary. If the interests of the Muhammadans are to be looked after and if the community is not to be ignored, it is hoped the Government of Lord Carmichael will take early steps for the introduction of the desired changes in the rules. The Muhammadans demand bare justice from the Government and it would be a great pity if that is denied to them.

MUSALMAN,  
11th Apr. 1913.



HERRA D.  
16th Apr. 1913

466. The *Herald* would invite the attention of the District Magistrate to the report of a serious outbreak of cholera in the western portion of the Dacca district, the result of which is that a large number of villages are in the grip of a terrible epidemic. Two factors accentuate the great danger that is threatening the inhabitants of a good portion of the Manikganj subdivision. The first is that the drinking water available in those villages is of the worst possible kind, it being impossible to have water in its natural colour. The second is that practically no medical relief is available. In Dubile, Gourbidya, Lechraganj, Rajkhara, Patgram, well known and populous villages in Manikganj, the journal understands that the epidemic is causing the greatest havoc. There are few families which it is reported have not been affected and a large number of cases are reported to have ended fatally, as is quite possible from the want of medical relief and the unwholesome conditions amidst which the sick even have to be kept. The paper hopes it will be possible to send a few medical men out from Dacca with the necessary medical provisions. Or it will also serve the purpose if the staff of the existing dispensaries in Mahadebpur and Baldhara is strengthened. It is hoped the District Magistrate of Dacca will be pleased to take one of these steps. The difficulty of securing good drinking water may also be solved temporarily. Ordinary small wells which would keep at least till the floods may be sunk in the affected villages at a nominal cost of two to three rupees. The journal would therefore earnestly request Mr. Birley to direct his kind attention immediately to the matter.

(h)—General.

BENGALIEP.  
12th Apr. 1913.

467. Referring to the very commendable step taken by His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in addressing a much-needed warning to British soldiers, the *Bengalee* need scarcely say that the order issued by His Excellency will meet with the cordial and whole-hearted support of every right-thinking man. At the same time the journal feels bound to point out that the order is somewhat belated. So many cases of the kind referred to in the order have occurred during the last decade or so that there seems to be no reason why the warning that has now been addressed to British soldiers should not have been addressed to them long ago. However that may be, the paper is grateful to His Excellency for what he has done and earnestly hopes his action will produce the desired effect. That it may have such effect, however, it will be necessary to keep a vigilant outlook upon the proceedings of soldiers who go out game-shooting.

Continuing its comments on the subject, the *Bengalee* in its issue of the 18th instant points out that the great thing necessary is to keep a vigilant outlook and to strictly enforce the orders. Now it so happens that a warning very like the one issued by His Excellency was issued some years ago by Lord Kitchener, then Commander-in-Chief of His Majesty's forces in India. After laying down certain rules for the guidance of soldiers, Lord Kitchener said that if after those precautions collisions still continued to take place, he would have seriously to consider whether soldiers should be permitted to shoot at all. That a collision occurred in this case between some soldiers and a villager, attended with the most fatal consequences, cannot possibly be disputed, and it seems that what the present authorities have to do is not to issue a fresh warning identical with the one issued by Lord Kitchener, but to enforce the orders then issued. As regards the Brindaban case, even the *Englishman* is constrained to observe that "an enquiry would be legitimate as to whether the rules about shooting passes were rigidly adhered to in the present case." Let such an enquiry be held by all means, but something more has to be done. There is a widespread feeling that there has been a failure of justice in this case, and it is the clear duty of the Government, in view of the gravity of the issues involved, to justify this feeling or remove it by moving the High Court for an authoritative decision of the point of law involved.



468. Referring to a special cablegram in the *Statesman*, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* remarks that the cry of the members of the

The Indian Civil Service.

Indian Civil Service that they are not adequately paid, that their promotions are not rapid, that they have numerous other grievances, etc., has not gone in vain. For they have succeeded in enlisting the sympathy of Lord Crewe himself, who is making an enquiry into the matter, independently of Lord Islington's Commission. The prospects of the grumbling civilians are thus very cheering indeed. It is abundantly clear that the Public Services Commission will do its best to further their interests; and judging from the enthusiastic way in which the Secretary of State for India, in consultation with Anglo-Indians in London, is determined to serve their cause the Civil Service ought to go into ecstasy. But then the question arises—will starving and pestilence-stricken India be able to bear further addition to the cost of administration? The most amusing part of the cablegram is that Lord Crewe is said to be labouring under the impression that his enquiry will be "a welcome communication to India"! Quite so; for, does not the increase of pay of higher officials mean further starvation to its people? How blind and short-sighted is the policy of the present rulers of India! The Indian Civil Service is the costliest Service in the world. To make it still more costly is to invite a financial disaster which may be too much for the Indian Empire to bear. They are under the impression that India, if now not a country of pagoda trees, is yet in a very prosperous condition, and can easily pay more princely salaries to members of the Civil Service.

469. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* welcomes with all its heart, public meetings like the one held at the Students' Hall

The Agricultural Department.

College on Tuesday, when Mr. Smith, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Bengal, delivered a lecture on "Agriculture as a means of livelihood for educated young men." The problem of "what to do with our boys" is just now engaging the most serious consideration of the Indian parent, and he is simply filled with despair at the dismal prospects lying before his boys. The number of appointments under Government is limited, the lucrative professions like the Bar, etc., are overcrowded. So young men must look elsewhere for some means whereby to keep their bodies and souls together. And Mr. Chakrabarti did very well when he exhorted the young men of Bengal to take up agriculture as a profession. At the same time, it must be pointed out that there are innumerable difficulties in the way of young men taking to agriculture and making it a profitable business. Somebody must remove these before they can take to it. The journal thinks the Government and the zamindars who can afford it should take upon themselves the task to do this, so as to make the way before the youths clear and thereby encourage them to follow this new path. The Hon'ble Mr. Lyon observed that in the matter of agriculture it was impossible for the Government to do very much for the people. The paper does not think so. Government can do very much in the matter, for the Government has got an Agricultural Department, the object of which is to make researches and try new agricultural methods. Now what the public urge is, that more attention and money should be devoted to agricultural experiments than to researches, and that the agricultural stations should be a profitable business, and that for the simple reason that so long as this is not done, the unprofitable working of these stations will, far from encouraging youths to take up agriculture, have a chilling effect on them.

470. The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* has already tried to impress on the public the great importance of the question that is

Separation of executive and judicial functions.

going to be agitated in the next Town Hall meeting to be held on the 18th April under the presidency of the distinguished towneman, Dr. Rash Bihari Ghosh, viz., the question of the separation of executive from judicial functions. But at the same time the journal wants to repeat that all this agitation will be practically useless unless and until opportunity is taken of the present state of public feeling over this question to raise an equally vigorous agitation for the two subsidiary reforms that are vitally and inextricably intertwined with this question, viz., (a) the wholesale extension of jury trial, and (b) the prevention of the undermining of the authority of the High Courts by the executive.

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## III.—LEGISLATION.

MUSALMAN,  
11th Apr. 1913.

471. The opening Session of the first Council of the Governor of Bengal, which came to a close on Friday last, was, the *Mussalman* thinks, a lively one. As His Excellency, the President, hoped in his opening remarks, the Hon'ble Members made a full and fair use of the opportunities they had of serving their constituents both by interpellations and by bringing forward resolutions on matters affecting the interests of the various communities in this Presidency. The discussions in the Council were carried on with marked ability and in a dignified manner. It is gratifying to note that the relations between the Hindu and Muhammadan members were most friendly and cordial. The journal is greatly pleased to find that mutual co-operation was the spirit which guided the members of both communities. The fact that the Moslem League has accepted the ideal of the Congress and has stretched its hand for co-operation with its Hindu fellow-countrymen in the work of the regeneration and advancement of the people, and the Provincial Conference has expressed its practical sympathy with the Turks by resolving to purchase Ottoman bonds, leads one to hope that the day is not far distant when the two communities will move together and work hand in hand and form a real Indian nation. The paper is glad to be able to say that the Muhammadan representatives in the Bengal Council, with certain exceptions, acquitted themselves very creditably and discharged their duties in a manner which has given satisfaction to the community and received its approval.

## VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

MUSALMAN,  
11th Apr. 1913.

472. The *Mussalman* is given to understand that the tenants of Rani Mina Kumari, of Murshidabad, living within the sphere of her zamindari *cutcherry* at Maharajpur within the jurisdiction of thana Nawabganj in the district of Dinajpore, are being subjected to various sorts of ill-treatment by the *amlas* of that *cutcherry*. It is alleged that they exacted from Re. 1 to Rs. 5 from each tenant for Kali *Puja* nautches, etc. When the Muhammadans realised that by subscribing for *puja* and nautches they were violating the rules of their religion they refused to pay and hence the ill-treatment. The crops on the land of one Abdur Rahman, of the village of Halaijana, were forcibly taken away. Vexatious cases have been, and are being, instituted against the poor tenants and their life has thus become miserable. There is a middle school at Halaijana. Apprehending that by getting education at the school the tenants might become refractory, the said *amlas*, bent upon damaging the institution, have ordered that whoever would subscribe to the funds of the school shall be punished with a fine of Rs. 25 and shall further be shoe-beaten 25 times. The *Sanjibani* and the *Muhammadi* have already criticised the conduct of the gentlemen concerned, but so far to no effect. The journal hopes that they will yet mend their ways and save it the unpleasant necessity of reverting to the subject and drawing the attention of the Government to the illegalities deliberately perpetrated.

BENGALIAN,  
10th Apr. 1913.

473. The *Bengalee* thinks that in view of the awakened feeling which has been roused in connection with the question of the separation of judicial and executive functions in the administration of criminal justice, Mr. Provas Chandra Mitra's book on the subject is welcome. It is a valuable contribution to the discussion. Mr. Provas Chandra Mitra, the worthy son of a great father, the late Sir Romesh Chandra Mitra, has now for some time been studying the question, and he has presented the results of his careful labours with a thoroughness and a grasp of details that leave little to be desired. The recent debate in the Supreme Legislative Council has not, indeed, been included in the volume, but Mr. Mitra proposes doing so at an early date. The proceeds of the sale of the book will be devoted to the furtherance of the discussion of this question so



as to help forward the practical recognition of the reform. The book is divided into five parts, the first of which contains mainly a historical retrospect of the subject. It is valuable as showing how from the earliest times, some of the most illustrious Anglo-Indian statesmen have viewed the combination of the two functions with a sense of disapproval, and that whenever the question came up for consideration, there was an underlying sense of dissatisfaction with the existing system which found emphatic expression. Part II of the book gives a collection of cases, not many in number, illustrating the evils of the system. The author adds that "the cases are by no means exhaustive, but are only illustrative," and he gives an excellent reason for not adding to the list, viz., that the publication of these cases has a tendency to rake up memories which all are anxious to forget and to bury out of sight. It is, however, sometimes apt to be forgotten that the combination of judicial and executive functions constitutes a standing menace to the administration of justice, and as such the reform is one of pressing urgency.

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*The 19th April 1913.*



as to help forward the practical recognition of the subject. The book is divided into five parts, the first of which contains mainly a historical sketch of the subject. It is valuable as showing how far the subject has advanced, and how far it has to go. The second part contains a list of the most important functions with a view of the question as to the distribution of these functions among the various departments of the system which the book gives a collection of cases, not only of the system, but also of the various functions, but only illustrative, and not as a study to the law, viz. that the principle is to be applied to the various cases which are given in the book. The book is a valuable one, and is a good one to have in the library of every one who is interested in the subject.

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